

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 CEA-02 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 DRC-01 /190 W

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8230

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AEMBMASSY HELSINKI 1085

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3207

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT,DA

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT FORMATION - NO. 4 - ONE-PARTY

MODERATE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT

REF: COPENHAGEN 3192

1.MODERATE LIBERAL (V) PARTY LEADER POUL HARTLING

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ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT HE WOULD FORM MINORITY, ONE-PARTY

MODERATE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT. HARTLING WILL CALL ON QUEEN TO OBTAIN HER CONCURRENCE THIS AFTERNOON (DEC. 17).

2. GOVERNMENT WILL BE BASED ON ADDITIONAL PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FROM CHRISTIAN PEOPLES PARTY (CH) AND CENTER DEMOCRATS (CD), AND HARTLING HAS OBTAINED "LOYAL OPPOSITION" AGREEMENT FROM SOCIAL DEMOCRATS (S), RADICALS (R) AND CONSERVATIVES (K). RADICAL LIBERAL PARTY, THE LAST HOLDOUT, ANNOUNCED THIS AFTERNOON IT WOULD NOT ACTIVELY OPPOSE THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MINISTERS (ONLY 14 IN ALL) AND ACTUAL INSTALLATION OF GOVERNMENT WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL DEC 19 OR 20 TO ENABLE PRESENT GOVERNMENT'S EC REPRESENTATIVES IN BRUSSELS TO COMPLETE NEGOTIATIONS ON EUROPEAN MONETARY UNION AND THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND.

4. ONE PROBLEM NORMALLY FACING ONE-PARTY MINORITY GOVERNMENTS - THE DEMANDS PLACED ON LIMITED MANPOWER RESOURCES TO MAN POSITIONS ON ALL FOLKETING COMMITTEES - HAS BEEN SOLVED BY FORMING SIX-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY COALITION (S-V-R-K-CD-CH). THIS IS PRIMARILY A TECHNICAL COLATION FOR PURPOSES OF PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATION, BUT IT INDICATES THAT NEW GOVERNMENT HAS WIDE-SPREAD PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT, INITIALLY AT LEAST. IN TERMS OF ACTUAL PARLIAMENTARY SEATS, HOWEVER, THE NEW GOVERNMENT (ASSURED OF ONLY 43 VOTES) WILL BE BASED ON A "NEGATIVE MAJORITY" - ON THE EXPECTATION THAT THE OPPOSITION WILL NOT HAVE A MAJORITY AGAINST IT ON ANY IMPORTANT ISSUE. HARTLING IS THUS COUNTING ON THE ALTERNATING SUPPORT OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ON SOME ISSUES AND OF THE NON-SOCIALIST PARTIES ON OTHERS. PRIMARILY, HOWEVER, HE IS DEPENDING ON FACT THAT NEITHER OF THE TWO BLOCS WOULD COOPERATE WITH MOGENS GLISTRUP'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY IN FELLING THE GOVERNMENT. IN SUM HOWEVER, THE NEW HARTLING GOVERNMENT WOULD APPEAR TO HAVE VERY UNCERTAIN PROSPECTS.

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